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"(*b*) It has been decided to take up the amendments to the Madras City Municipal Act, after the working relating to comprehensive amendments to the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, Madras District Board Act, 1920, and the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, which are now under consideration, is over."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—"Is it not a fact that these amendments were suggested by the Corporation even before 1951? When questions were put in this House then, the Hon. Minister replied that they would be considered after the elections to the Corporation Council. In 1952 elections to the Corporation Council were held. When questions are put now, that is in 1955, the reply is that the amendments will be considered after the elections in 1955. How long are the Government going to adopt this kind of dilatory tactics?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"Government have received more than 150 amendments from the Corporation Council. Certainly the Government will consider the inclusion of important amendments in the legislation."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—"Two of the amendments suggested by the Corporation are the bifurcation of unwieldy divisions and bringing the electoral roll up to date. Does the Minister think that these are not proper amendments to be considered before the elections?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"These come under important and urgent amendments to the Act."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—"1919-ம் வருஷத்தில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்ட சிட்டி முனிசிபல் ஆக்ட் அது. சமுதாய வளர்ச்சி சுதந்தர மனப்பான்மை இவைகள் எல்லாம் இருக்கக்கூடிய இந்த நாளில் இந்த சட்டத்தை அடியோடு திருத்துவதற்கு சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா? கார்போரேஷனிலிருந்து 150 திருத்தங்கள் இந்த சட்டத்திற்கு சிபாரிசு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே அதற்கு வேண்டிய திருத்தங்களோடு இந்த சட்டத்தைத் தயாரிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"அவசியமிருந்தால் அதைப்பற்றி அவசியம் யோசிப்பார்கள்."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—"The very fact that 150 amendments have been proposed by the Corporation shows the importance and urgency of the matter. Why should the Government delay the matter?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"We are taking up one after the other."

Issue of gun licences to Legislators.

* 2026 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government was consulted by the Central Government regarding a private Bill in the Lok Sabha recommending issue of gun licences to Members of Parliament and State Legislatures; and

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(*b*) if so, what was the reply given by this State Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The Member presumably refers to the provision in the Bill by Sri Umacharan Patnaik, M.P., seeking to exempt Members of the State Legislature or a Member of either House of Parliament, etc., from taking out licences under the Indian Arms Act. If so, the answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) An extract[a] from this Government's reply to the Government of India on the point is placed on the table of the House."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" Is it a fact that Ministers enjoy the privilege of possessing arms without licence and, if so, will the Government withdraw that privilege since pilferage is likely to be more in the houses of Ministers than in the houses of Members of the Legislature? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am not aware of any such privilege. Even if it is there, I have not taken advantage of it and I do not think any other Minister has taken advantage of it."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" As the safety of persons going about even in the City of Madras seems to be very precarious, judging from the incident which is alleged to have occurred last evening near the Iron Bridge in which a Reporter of 'The Hindu' was stabbed, may I request the Hon. Minister to permit legislators, news reporters and citizens to possess arms like guns or even revolvers for self-protection? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If we permit all the citizens to possess arms, unscrupulous people will use guns or revolvers instead of knives. The primary question is about the issue of gun licences to legislators and not about arming all the people."

8-50 a.m. SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is there any basis for the grievance in this House that this Government have freely expressed the view of the Inspector-General of Police that the Members of this House were and are anti-social elements? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is absolutely no basis for this inference. The Inspector-General has given the reasons why it need not be given to the legislators, and we have placed it on the table of the House."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Is there any class of officials who, by virtue of their office, are automatically entitled to a gun licence? "

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a Printed as Appendix II on page 837 infra.

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir. The Police officials, I suppose, are entitled to possess guns by virtue of their holding the office."

Malnad area villages.

* 2027 *Q.*—SRI K. UPPI (on behalf of Sri K. M. Seethi Sahib) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to the answer given to a supplementary to Question No. 88 on 7th December 1954 the names of the villages in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks, which are included in the Malnad area; and

(*b*) the steps taken for the development of these villages?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The Attapady village of Walluvanad taluk and the Nilambur village of Ernad taluk in the Malabar district are included in the Malnad area.

" (*b*) A statement[a] showing the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the development of those villages in the Malnad area is placed on the table of the House."

SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV :—" In view of the fact that some of the villages which deserve to be included in the Malnad area such as Kezikan panambara, Karyana and Changaroth in Kurumbranad taluk, are not actually included, will the Government see that they are also included? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" When was the Report of the Member submitted to the Government and how long will the Government take to go through it and pass orders on the recommendations? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not have with me information regarding the date when the Report was submitted to us. Perhaps it was submitted to us a few months back. But the Government have to consider the various items referred to in that Report and it must take some time."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" With regard to the measures taken by the Government for the development of the Malnad area, some suggestions from the officials were circulated to some of us, the Members, and a meeting was convened, but unfortunately the meeting was not held. As a result of that, the suggestions of the officials were not discussed and in most of the areas of Malnad those recommendations were not known. In view

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 838–839 *infra*.